

# THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.

VOL. 10.

CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 24, 1849.

NUMBER 4.

## THE CAMDEN JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY  
T. W. PEGUES.

From the Columbia Telegraph.

### THE SENTIMENT OF ALABAMA.

Slowly but surely the sparks of the old fire are kindling up again throughout the whole Southern country, and as the politicians seem fearful of burning their fingers, the Press is compelled to fan the flame. The arrogant and insolent tone of the North on the Territorial question, which has roused the righteous indignation to which the milk and water Resolutions adopted by their Legislatures have given no fit utterance.

Our politicians are behind the masses in this matter, and the press alone embodies the expression of popular sentiment, which is for opposition to insult and injury at all, and every hazard—for no compromise which would betray a craven readiness to accept any settlement of a question involving right honor, and interest. The Mobile Herald and Tribune, thus boldly grappling with this great question and its tone shows where the men of Alabama stand. Speaking of the alleged draft of the Resolutions of the Congress Committee, the Editor says:

"If this be the substance of the Resolutions adopted by the Southern Convention, we think there can be no difference of opinion as to the moderate spirit of the meeting. There is more compromise here than would have been received or proffered by the South two or three years ago. But, civilly this section of the Union is as helpless as a child in the arms of its nurse. If public opinion, in eyes of the free States is either harmless or contemptible. It has talked so long, without action; it has bent itself so completely to the making of Presidents or other party purposes; it has so implicitly hung its hopes upon a fancied security in a single man, who legislative power, (which is the only thing important in the matter) has been concentrating in the hands of the enemy; it has shown so abject a reverence for a union without justice,—that we have now hardly a hope that any species of wrong, except it be some overt act which would cause a slave to resist, will work a union among us of sufficient moral or legal force to check the anti-slavery progress.

The civil influence of the south is past.—Encroachment on encroachment has been submitted to by us so often that there is hardly any room to make a stand upon. There is no chance now of getting anything back. It has all been compromised away, and if we can peacefully save a security for slavery in the States, we suspect it will be as much as any man who has watched the past will expect. For all the rest, we cannot see what action is to be taken, except resistance.

Yet even while all this appears so obvious, we find political papers among us threatening revenge for a lack of party fealty against those who, in a past election were moved solely by their superior devotion to the south. Men sincere in their attachment to this section one would suppose would be eager to pardon such errors—would be prompt to reconcile the difference which were occasioned by such motives—would take such men by the hand so that the past would be forgotten in the desire for union and preparation in the future.

The truth is, it is just this spirit of party revenge which is making the south so entirely helpless; and we can see no way of promoting unanimity of action until such party presses be stripped of their means of misdirecting and vitating the public opinion of the South.

**INTERESTING SURGICAL OPERATION.**—Dr. Paul F. Eave, of this city, performed the operation of lithotomy, last Saturday, at the H. Hospital, and removed from the bladder of Mr. O. Brannon, one hundred and seventeen stones, the largest of which weighed two drachms and seventeen grains. We have seen the pebbles. They are tetrahedral (four sided) and all have sharp angles rounded off by friction one against another. Their aggregate weight is 4 ounces, 3 drachms, 38 grains. They have been accumulating 20 years.

Prof. Eve performed the operation with much skill, and without pain to the subject, he being under the anodyne influence of chloroform.—*Augusta Chronicle.*

**DEATH OF A YOUNG LADY, BY ACCIDENTAL POISONING.**—A most melancholy occurrence of this kind took place in Camden county, in this district, on the 7th inst. A Miss Hagdalen McCauley, daughter of Mr. George I. McCauley, of Camden, on the evening of that day, called on a visit at the residence of Dr. C. W. Lesene, and on being informed by the servant that the family were not home, remained in the house awaiting their return. While there, a violent toothache came on, and, ascertaining on inquiry that the Doctor's office was closed, so that no relief therefrom could be obtained, she procured from his medicine trunk, which was brought to her by a servant, the only phial therein containing a very small quantity of white powder, which she thought to be morphine. Emptying the phial of its contents, she mixed them with water; and drank it for the purpose of obtaining relief. In a few moments after this, she complained of great pain, an sent the servant to call her young master, the doctor's son and quite a lad, and to send off for her mother and the doctor. The youth and servant on entering the room found her a corpse. The substance she had taken was strychnine and caused her death in twenty minutes. She had supposed it to be morphine, a substance similar in appearance. The doctor on his return said there were three grains in the phial. A medical friend informs us that one twentieth of a grain of morphine nearly equals in bulk a grain of strychnine. The quantity she took acted as a most virulent poison. A fatal mistake! Her bereaved

parents have thus, by a mistake appalling in its suddenness and fatality, been deprived of a daughter, amiable in character, intelligent in mind, and lovely in person. Their loss is great and more than usually terrible and saddening from its singularity, infrequency and suddenness.

In regard to this occurrence, it becomes our duty as public journalists to hold up this instance as a warning to all, especially the young, ignorant, venturesome, careless and inexperienced not to tamper in such a manner with drugs and medicines with which they are unacquainted, lest they too lose their lives by some fatal mistake.

*Sumter Banner.*

**COST OF MAIL SERVICE.**—The average cost of transporting all the United States mails, taking all the modes together, is not quite six cents per mile. The average cost of transportation in all modes, exclusive of railroads and steamboats, is 13 1/2 cents per mile. The average cost of transportation by railroad is 7 1/2 cents per mile. The entire length of post routes in operation during the year ending on the 30th of June, 1848, was 163,208 miles. The aggregate transportation of the mails over these routes during the year was 41,012,579 miles; and the cost for the year was \$1,398,503.

**RAILROADS AT THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1848.**—The Rail Road Journal, summing up the extraordinary influence of Rail roads upon the country and upon the world says:

"It may be safely estimated that the entire expenditure, within the last 25 years in the projection and construction of rail roads will not fall short of one thousand millions of dollars; and their influence in facilitating business, in reducing the expenses and time of travel, and in opening up new regions of country, has given an increased value to property of twice that amount; and yet their influence are only just beginning to be felt.

**EXEMPTING THE HOMESTEAD.**—There ought to be a home, in the proper sense, for every man, woman and child in our country, no matter how poor. Let that home, however humble, be exempt from seizure and sale, and the heart will always have something to turn to, the wandering footstep some place to seek, the memory a spot upon the associations connected with which to dwell, with yearning affection. The act just passed in this Commonwealth is a little of the right kind. The Wisconsin Legislature has passed an act exempting from attachment and forced sale of a homestead, consisting of a quantity of land not exceeding forty acres, used for agricultural purposes, with a dwelling house thereon, or, at the option of the owner, a quantity of land not exceeding a quarter of an acre, without a house upon it, in a town plat, city or village.

A reservation is made, securing the payment of taxes; also one, securing to mechanics and laborers any lien they may have upon the premises. A mortgage lawfully obtained, moreover, shall have a valid hold upon the premises, but in all these cases of exemption, except that which relates to the payment of taxes; a married man cannot alienate his homestead, unless his wife signs the deed or other instruments of alienation. But this does not go far enough. The homestead—the family home, that is—should be totally inalienable. No man, even with his wife's consent, should have the right to rob his children of their home to get money for speculation or liquidate debts incurred by his folly or his extravagance.

*Phila. Spirit of the Times.*

**HOW TO SAVE SEED CORN.**—Farmers are not generally aware that seed corn should be saved from stalks which have not been stripped of their leaves. A little reflection will convince any one, that it is only such corn that can be said to have arrived at perfection. The leaves of corn it is known, perform the same part in the economy of that plant, that the lungs do in the economy of the human body—breathing, so to speak, the air and assimilating or rejecting its elements when decomposed, according as they are or are not necessary for its use. Accordingly, when the leaves are stripped for fodder, the plant soon dies, and as the process of stripping is always commenced before the corn is perfectly ripe, it of course cannot possess its full strength, and when planted next season, must fail in productiveness when compared with that which has been suffered to come to perfection. These are simple, but scientific facts, which cannot be refuted and should be borne in mind, and acted upon by all farmers, who have a regard for their interests, or take pride in their vocation. The quantity of corn required for seed, should always be saved in the way we have described; and the few bundles of fodder which the farmer will lose by it, will be paid for a thousand times over by the superior quality and quantity of his next year's crop.—*Norfolk Beacon.*

### CULTIVATION OF TASTE.

I cannot help taking notice of an opinion which many persons entertain, as if the taste were a separate faculty of the mind, and distinct from the judgement and imagination a species of instinct by which we are struck naturally, and at the first glance, without any previous reasoning, with the excellencies or the defects of a composition. So far as the imagination and the passion are concerned, I believe it true that the reason is little consulted; but where disposition, where decorum, where congruity are concerned—in short, wherever the best taste differs from the worst, I am convinced that the understanding operates, and nothing else; and its operations are in reality far from being always sudden, or when they are sudden, they are often far from being right. Men of the best taste, by consideration, come frequently to change their early precipitate judgement, which the mind, from its aversion to neutrality and doubt loves to form on the spot. It is known that the taste (where-

ever it is) is improved exactly as we improve our judgements, by extending our knowledge, by a steady attention to our object and by frequent exercise. They who have not taken these methods, their quickness is owing to their presumption and rashness, and not to any sudden irradiation that in a moment dispels all darkness from their minds. But they who have cultivated that species of knowledge which makes the object of taste, by degrees, and habitually attain not only a soundness, but a readiness of judgement, as men do by the same methods on all other occasions. At first they are obliged to spell, but at last they read with ease and with celerity; but this celerity of its operation is no proof, that the taste is a distinct faculty. Nobody, I believe, has attended the courts at a discussion which turned upon matters within the sphere of mere naked reason, but must have observed the extreme readiness with which the whole process of the argument is carried on, the grounds discovered, the objections raised and answered, and the conclusion drawn from the premises, with a quickness altogether as great as the taste can be supposed to work with; and yet where nothing but plain reason either is or can be suspected to operate. To multiply principles for every different appearance is useless, and unphilosophical too, in a high degree.—*Burke.*

**HINTS FOR EMIGRANTS TO CALIFORNIA.**—Remember.—That the earth is not very deep in those parts, and it may be very dangerous to dig too deep.

That many a man who has strictly minded his business has found as good gold as there is in California.

That all do not find gold there, who dig for gold only.

That all the gold is not in California; and if all California were gold, it would not be worth as much as Coney Island.

That if men do desert their country's flag for gold, it is an evil temptation.

That if it can be dug out of the rocks with a jack knife, it is not worth digging for, or any respectable jack knife is worth its weight in hundred times in gold.

That to a hungry man, a good sized potato is worth all the California "carrots."

That all the gold in the country, if it cannot purchase happiness, is of no value.

That there are men who, if they owned all California, were it all gold, would not be satisfied with it.

That it is better to dwell with humble livers in content, than "wear a golden sorrow."

The "Poor and Content, is rich and rich enough;" but riches without content is as poor as winter to him that never fears he shall be poor, although he were as rich as the mines of California.

*Journal of Commerce.*

### A SHIP AMONG ICEBERGS.

It is impossible to convey a correct idea of the beauty, the magnificence, of some of the scenes through which we passed. Thousands of the most grotesque, fanciful, and beautiful icebergs and icefields surrounded on all sides, intersected by numerous serpentine canals, which glittered in the sun (for the weather was fine all the time we were in the straits), like threads of silver twining round palaces of crystal. The masses assumed every variety of form and size, and many of each bore such a striking resemblance to cathedrals, churches, columns arches and spires that I could almost fancy we had been transported to one of the floating cities of Fairy land. The rapid motion, too of our ship, in what appeared a dead calm, added much to the magical effect of the scene. A light but steady breeze urged her along, with considerable velocity through a maze of ponds and canals, which, from the immense quantity of ice that surrounded them, were calm and untroubled as the surface of a mill pond. Not a sound disturbed the delightful stillness of nature, save the gentle rippling of the vessel's bow as she sped on her way, or the occasional puffing of a lazy whale, awakened from a nap by our unceremonious intrusion on his domains. Now and then, however, my reveries were disagreeably interrupted by the ship coming into sudden contact with huge lumps of ice. This happened occasionally when we arrived at the termination of one of those natural canals through which we passed, and found necessary to force our way in the next. These concussions were sometimes very severe, and even made the ship's bell ring; but we heeded this little, as the vessel was provided with huge blocks of timber on her bows, called ice pieces, and was besides built expressly for sailing in the northern seas. It only became annoying at meal times, when a spoonful of soup would sometimes, make a little private excursion of its own, over the shoulder of its owner, instead of into his mouth. As we proceeded, the ice became more closely packed, and at last compelled us to bore through it. The ship however, was never altogether detained, though much retarded. I recollect, while thus surrounded, filling a bucket with water from a pool on the ice, to see whether it was fresh or not, as I had been rather sceptical upon this point. It was excellent, and might almost compete with the water from the famous spring of Crawley.

*Ballantyne's Hudson's Bay.*

**DOCTORS EASY AND FUSSEY.**—There shall be two men, doctors, for example, of equal learning and skill. They are on a lookout for practice. Dr. Easy puts his name on a brass plate on the door, and then sits down in his drawing-room to wait for patients. Need I say that he has generally to wait a long time. But Dr. Fussey does not approve of the passive system. He keeps a horse and chaise before he gets a visit to make. He hired people to alarm all the neighborhood with peals of his surgery bell. He is continually called out of church, and has once ventured on having his name shouted as being immediately wanted while attending a Lowell lecture. Not a form of advertise-

ment does Dr. Fussey neglect, and the odds are, in the end, that he is making a thousand dollars a year, before Dr. Easy has heard the rat a-tat of his first patient at the door. Now perhaps Dr. Fussey may, of the two, be the humbug; but I very much question whether he is the fool. What applies to these two Doctors, applies generally to every trade and profession under the sun. Barring lucky chance now and again, an adventurer will find that in the battle of life every man must be his own trumpeter, sound your own charge and ride over everybody, or somebody else will sound his charge and ride over you.

**MRS. PARTINGTON ON PHYSICS.**—"This is an age of enlightenment in physics sure enough!" said Mrs. Partington, as she glanced at the column of new and remarkable specifics; "why will people run after metaphysics and their rostrums, when by taking some simple purgatory they can get well so soon. It's all nonsense, it is—and if people instead of dosing themselves with calumny and bitters, would only take exercise and air a little more and wash themselves with care and a crash towel they would be all the better for it." She said this on her own experience. As for "died drink" and summer beverages, Mrs. P. is high, she is.

**POETICAL REPORTING.**—The Waterford Chronicle contains the following police report, the rhythm of which is decidedly clever:

"Mister Johnny O'Connor, a man of no honor, went out with Miss Brady, a nice little lady, and treated to brandy, and sponge cake and candy, and more things so dainty, and kisses so plenty. But at length the sad fellow grew artfully mellow, and he was walking, and kissing and talking with pretty Miss Brady, the nice little lady, a purse full of rhino (I wish it was mine oh), he whipped from her pocket, and cleared like a rocket. But soon he was taken, while tracks he was making, and lodgings assigned him where justice may find him. But the maid on the morrow came in sorrow, her little heart heaving, and tears her eyes leaving and begged that his honor would pity poor Connor, to which he assented as Connor repented; when off went the couple with limbs mighty supple, and left us presuming that maiden so blooming, herself to a life of much trouble was dooming; for Johnny, the blockhead, who picked the maid's pocket, when married, I'm thinking, will whip her like winking."

A man was lately brought before a magistrate charged with stealing a dead sheep; the magistrate dismissed the complaint, observing that there was no such thing, as when a sheep died it became mutton.

**A CHILD WITHOUT A FATHER.**—A respectable man was called a few days since to exercise his professional skill upon the infant child of a very pretty little woman who held apartments in the neighborhood of his office. The baby had a complexity of maladies, and the combined influence of hooping cough and convulsions, &c., proved to be more than nature could endure. The little sufferer died when about six weeks old. It was necessary for the mother to have the physician's certificate setting forth the cause of death in order to procure the interment of the body. She therefore despatched her second son, a promising youth of some six summers' growth, to the doctor's office, to procure said certificate. Fully commissioned, the precious youngster entered the office, and cried out:

"Doctor, ma want the thurtificate to bury the babee."

"Oh, aye," said the Doctor raising his glasses, and patting the juvenile on the head. "So little baby's dead, Charley, isn't he?" (with a benevolent and sympathetic look.)

"Yeth, he ith, an I want the thurtificate; for ma, tho they can bury'im."

"I understand, my boy, your mother wants a certificate; well Charley, where is your father?"

"Oh, he's dead long ago."

"Ah, your father died sometime since?"

"Yeth."

"So, to be sure, I see, (replacing spectacles) well, Charley, where is the baby's father?"

"Vy, e never 'ad one, at all."

"O—! I see umph, (writes rapidly) here's the certificate, now hurry home."

The youngster thrust the paper into his apron pocket, and made his exit, munching a cake which he had held behind his back during his dialogue with the Doctor. The good old man of medicines watched the progress of the urchin till he turned the nearest corner, and then returned to his chair and studied, saying distinctly, as he took a pinch of snuff, "this is a remarkable age."

*N. Y. Herald.*

**GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE.**—Certainly, but it is better to have no dealing with the devil, and then there will be nothing due him.

**FEMALE MoustACHIOS.**—It has become a general fashion in Germany for ladies to shave the upper lip, thereby promoting the growth of a sufficient down to produce the effect of a moustache. By the present taste, a shaded upper lip is considered a beauty, and it is openly advocated by foreign ladies, as giving expression to the nostril and vastly increasing the whiteness of the teeth. Shaving daily during the retirement of summer, turns out by winter a very presentable and silky moustache.

**MUMMERS.**—The Texas Star states that a million of mummies have been discovered in the environs of Durango, in Mexico. They are in a sitting posture, but have the same wrappings, hands and ornaments as the Egyptians.

**Death of a Missionary.**—Died at Bangkok, Siam, September 25th, of erysipelas and inflammation of the lungs, Rev. Jesse Caswell, American (Baptist) Missionary, aged 39 years.

**P. W. R. IN REPLY TO THE RESPONSE OF H. W. TO LINES OF W. R. J. ON THE DEATH OF JOHN ROBISON.**

"Tis true that whilst John's death we mourn—  
It is no small relief,  
To know Eliza still survives  
To furnish us with beef.

Eliza aye—and Bela too,  
Those whom can none surpass,  
In raising Beef, still fed as well  
As Beef that's fed on grass.

These names like household words are dear  
In this luxurious work:  
They will no doubt from year to year  
Find Poultry, Beef and Pork.

But between the dead and those who live,  
This diff'rence I must say  
Will be, the last will never give,  
But, ever have their pay.

P. W. R.

**AREA AND POPULATION.**—Oregon Territory contains 341,463 square miles, New Mexico, 77,387 do; California, total 1,861,976 square miles of 640 acres each. The United States Territory were it of square form, would measure 1,820 miles by 1,820.

From the easternmost town in the United States, Eastport, Maine, via the St. Lawrence, Buffalo, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and South Pass in the Rocky Mountains, to Astoria in Oregon, the distance, by the travelled route, is 4,517 miles. From the Madawaska in Maine, by the Atlantic route, via New York, Washington, New Orleans and Galveston, to the mouth of the Rio Grande, 2,923. From New York to the head of Lake Superior, via Detroit and Macinac, is 1,866 miles; thence down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, is 2,284 miles. From Eastport Maine, to the Bay of St. Francisco, in California, on the Pacific, via Portland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Santa Fe, and the Colorado of the West, is 3,644 miles.

The population of the British Possessions in North America is 2,073,000, of which 700,000 persons are in Upper and 800,000 in Lower Canada; Nova Scotia, 240,000; New Brunswick, 160,000; Newfoundland, 100,000; Prince Edward's Island, 69,000; Red River Settlement, 10,000.

Great Britain and adjacent isles contained in 1841, a population of 18,059,865, exclusive of persons in the army, navy and merchant vessels not on shore; Ireland, 8,175,233; total, 26,835,103. An official census of the religious belief of the Irish, taken in 1835, showed that of 7,943,040 people, that were 6,427,712 Catholics, 852,064 Protestants and other 664,164 of various sects. There is not a county in Ireland in which the Catholics do not outnumber the Protestants. Galway has 4,702 Protestants and 253,155 Catholics; Tipperary, 389,292 Catholics and 17,515 Protestants. In Dublin the Catholics are three to one.

**GENERAL QUITMAN'S SERVANT.**—A HERO The Natchez Courier, in recording the marriage of Henry Nicholas, a colored man belonging to Gen. John A. Quitman, to one of his master's female servants, a few days ago says:

"Henry Nicholas, by the name and style of 'Harry,' has been the faithful and confiding servant of General Quitman for sixteen years. Through education, General Quitman's servant, defeat, sunshine and storm, Harry has ever been present, and faithful to execute the mandate of his master. He has made the tour of the United States and the Canadas, and when the infant Republic of Texas was struggling for a place among the stars and stripes, he accompanied his master, who was then Captain Quitman, through these perilous scenes, and while walking over the battle ground of San Jacinto, looking very sad at the sight of the numerous dead, his master asked him what he was thinking about. He replied that he was thinking what those yellow men were fighting with white folks. But it was reserved for Harry to illustrate the annals of his race at the storming of Monterey, for it will be recollected that General Quitman had the charge of the brave Mississippians and Tennesseans, and was in the hottest and thickest of the fight having several horses shot from under him, the places had to be immediately supplied by Harry, although he had to make his way to his master through grape and canister. But to crown the enchantment of the scene, when the gallant William O. Butler fell wounded, Harry immediately rushed to his rescue, and carried him off the field. While conveying the General from the field, he inquired after his master, General Butler told him he feared he would never see him alive, as he was in the most dangerous position when he saw him last." Harry replied with that deep seated feeling of the faithful servant: "Don't you believe that, General, master was not born to be killed by them mullatto rascals!" When Gen. Quitman was ordered to the conquering column of Scott, he carried Harry with him, who was side by side with him at the bombardment and storming of Chapultepec on the 13th and 14th, and the deadly conflict of the Garita de Belen and finally his triumphant entry into the city and palace of the Montezumas. Harry was the first Anglo African in the Halls. He is known by the entire army, and greatly respected by officers and men, as an humble faithful, and honest servant, who will be glad to see this notice of him!"

**SCHENECTADY AND SARATOGA PLANK ROAD.**  
A new and rather novel improvement in constructing roads is rapidly developing the resources of the agricultural districts in our State—bringing into play the enterprise of our farmers and giving them advantages for travel little short of railroads; and in a manner particularly adapted to their accommodation, and at a comparatively small rate of expense. Plank roads can be made, as a general rule, for about the year's interest of a well made railroad. About one hundred companies have already been formed, or are about being formed, to construct these roads in various parts of the State of New York. The time is coming when most of the roads of the State and Union, where there is any considerable amount of travel, and timber reasonable, will be plank roads. Thus far every plank road made in this State has fully equalled, if not exceeded, the expectation of its projectors. The fact that a pair of horses can with ease, and with increased speed, carry double the weight on a plank road that they can on the best common roads, without any other consideration, settles their value. When the roads are bad, as they usually are, spring and fall, four times the weight can be taken on plank roads at such seasons that can be taken on common roads. The farmer can

go to market at all times when he cannot work his farm on account of the weather, or from other causes; and when other roads are impassable he can trot off with his pair of horses, and two tons weight, and return (living some 15 or 20 miles distant from market) the same day; while with a bad road, taking the same weight, would require several days, besides great wear and tear of horses, and wagons, and harness; in fact, leaving actually little return after deducting expenses. This is no fanciful calculation; it has been fully proved. This improvement will bring up the value of farms within reach of markets, which have been greatly depressed by the low price of land at the West. The convenience of getting the produce of the farm to market, will enable the farmer of the East better to compete with the farmer of the West, although the cost of land is so much less at the West. The expense of distant transportation will serve to confirm the value of farms near the great markets. Our new States, until they have more money, should go to work constructing plank roads—they will for a long time answer the purpose of railroads, except on the great and central thoroughfares. Michigan should be wide awake on the subject.

A plank road is to be immediately built between the city of Schenectady and the village of Saratoga Springs, passing through the thriving village of Ballston Spa. If the materials can be procured in season, the calculation is to have the road built and ready in time for the pleasure travel of the present year, so that travellers from all quarters of our land can carry home accounts of it. This road will pass through a country for the most part very beautiful. It is contemplated to have spacious omnibuses to run in connection with the Albany and Schenectady railroad, and the White Hall railroad, so that passengers can pass over the road in two hours, and to or from Albany in three hours or less. Arrangements will probably be made to ticket passengers through from New York, or from Saratoga via Albany to New York, so that no care need be taken about luggage until it is deposited at the hotels at the Springs, or on arrival at New York. Those that travel with ladies will find great relief in having the care of luggage taken from them by such an arrangement. In the driest season there is little or no dust to inconvenience the traveller on plankroads.

The press cannot be too diligent in calling public attention to these roads. At the South, where timber is cheap and the common roads execrable, they will be of great value; indeed in every part of our Union they can be constructed to great advantage—giving employment to the laboring classes; increased value to real estate; and a good investment to stockholders. It is an improvement beneficial to all classes. Some fear has been expressed that the timber of the country would be exhausted by the rage for plank roads; but such will not be the case. Those roads will be constructed so as to lead to those districts where the timber is now nearly, but of little or no value to any one, or the land on which it grows, on account of the expense of getting it to market. These plank roads are about to open sources of wealth to the northern part of this State, of more value to the public than the gold mines of California.

one foot rise in from twelve to sixteen can easily be overcome with a pair of horses with two tons. If made perfectly level, advantage would be taken, and teams loaded with four or five tons would pass without any additional toll, carrying a weight too heavy for such a road. Legislation will be required to regulate the weight of loads, so as to prevent imposition.

When these roads were first thought of, it was supposed they would not answer on account of perishable nature of the material used; but it is now discovered that these roads wear out before they decay; and that while wearing out the income is so great that they will afford 10 per cent to the stockholder, (the maximum rate allowed by law in the State of New York) and from 10 to 20 per cent, surplus to keep the road in repair, and relay it when necessary.

It will take above three thousand loads of plank of three inches in thickness and eight feet long to lay the Saratoga and Schenectady. In about every seven years the worn plank will have to be replaced—the old ones will be valuable to the farmer on the line for many purposes.

These roads will also give a good foot-walk at all seasons of the year free of cost, and save the trouble of much horse harnessing, in neighborhood visiting and church-going, as well as giving the children easy access to the district schools, the pride of our State.

These roads are also to be a source of additional income to the great central lines of railroads and canals already constructed. Plank roads diverging from each side of them, extending through fertile valleys up to our mountain regions, will bring all the resources of our State into active play—employing every idle hand and every idle dollar. Tens of thousands of dollars are now locked up in our agricultural districts; one hundred here, five hundred there, doing nothing for the want of a favorable investment. Plank roads will call forth such means and set it at work for the public good, and at the same time give a fair return in interest.—*Nat. Intelligencer.*

**PRICES IN CALIFORNIA.**—A letter from California, published in the New York Tribune, says:

Whiskey sells here at from \$2.50 to \$3 per gallon; shoes, light and heavy, \$3.50 to \$5; boots \$10 to \$16. Domestic goods sold at an advance of about 250 per cent, on cost including transportation; ready made clothing 250 to 350 per cent, clear profit. Good blankets sell by the bale at \$20 per pair. Watches and jewelry bring very high prices, with very quick sale, and gold dust is frequently picked up at \$9 to \$10 per ounce.

**A BEAR KILLED.**—A fine fat black bear was killed on old Christmas day last, in Lynche's creek swamp, near the line dividing the town of Darlington district. It would be as hard to tell who is entitled to the honor of the deed, as to decide upon the birthplace of Homer. We say this with due deference to the weighty testimony pro and con.—*Cheraw Gazette.*

The number of boats which passed Cairo on the Mississippi during the year just expired, according to the Delta of that place, was 4568! This is about one arrival in every hour and three quarters. "Beat that, you villages up the Ohio and Mississippi, if you can!"